

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~system for a creation or modification of an~~ modified orthopedic knee joint within a mammalian body, the ~~system joint~~ comprising a supporting bone, an opposing bone, and an implant adapted to be inserted and positioned ~~at a~~ in the joint site to provide at least one major surface in apposition to the supporting bone, and at least a second major surface in apposition to the opposing bone,

wherein the implant is a knee implant and provides a first major surface ~~adapted to be~~ positioned upon and congruent with a tibial surface of the knee, and a second major surface ~~adapted to be~~ positioned against a femoral condyle of the knee,

and wherein the second major surface is provided with a femoral glide path to facilitate its performance *in situ*, the glide path being in the form of a generally central depression,

the implant further comprising one or more tibial projections ~~adapted to~~ extending distally over a rim of a posterior portion of the tibial plateau and ~~to proceeding~~ in a mesial direction in order to improve fixation *in situ*.

2.(Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 1 wherein the implant has dimensions on the order of between about 30 to about 60 mm in an anterior-posterior dimension, between about 20 mm to about 40 mm in a medial-lateral dimension, and a maximum thickness, at a posterior lip, of between about 8 mm and about 20 mm, or about 3mm to about 10 mm greater than the thickness of the implant at a center.

4. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 1 wherein the implant further comprises at least one ancillary component integrated into, and partially extending from, the implant to provide anterior fixation.

5. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 4 wherein the ancillary component comprises one or more protrusions adapted to be attached to either soft tissue and/or bone at the knee to improve fixation.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 1 further comprising one or more separate components for securing the implant to the knee, selected from a group consisting of adhesives, sutures, pins, staples, screws, and combinations thereof.

9-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 1, wherein the implant comprises one or more surfaces having attached thereto a biologically active agent selected from the group cytokines, growth factors, autologous growth factors, hydroxyapatite, collagen, and combinations thereof.

17-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 1 wherein the glide path is in the form of a generally central oval depression about 0.5 mm to about 5mm deep at its lowest point and about 20 mm to about 50 mm in length by 10 mm to 30 mm in width.

20-27. (Cancelled).

28. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 3 wherein the glide path is in the form of a generally central oval depression about 0.5 mm to about 5mm deep at its lowest point and about 20 mm to about 50 mm in length by 10 mm to 30 mm in width.

29-45. (Cancelled)

46. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 1 wherein the implant comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethanes, polyethylenes,

polypropylenes, Dacrons, polyureas, hydrogels, metals, ceramics, epoxies, polysiloxanes, and polyacrylates.

47. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 1, wherein the implant comprises a metal.

48. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 47, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of titanium, stainless steel, cobalt chrome ~~millithium~~ alloys and tantalum.

49. (Currently Amended) A modified knee joint system according to claim 1, wherein the tibial projection is ~~adapted to occupy~~ occupies a posterior cruciate ligament sulcus *in situ*.